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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH SERVICE  
ANIMAL HUSBANDRY RESEARCH DIVISION

PROPOSED CHANGES  
in  
The National Poultry Improvement Plan  
and  
The National Turkey Improvement Plan

These proposed changes and supporting statements are presented for consideration by interested persons prior to the National Plans Conference which is to be held at the Mayflower Hotel, Washington, D. C., July 8 - 10, inclusive.

Each proposal should be considered on its merit in relation to existing provisions and to other proposed changes which may be adopted. Such consideration is especially important in evaluating those proposals which are in conflict with other proposals affecting the same provisions.

For identification of sections refer to Miscellaneous Publication No. 739 (Revised April 1963), The National Poultry and Turkey Improvement Plans and Auxiliary Provisions.

The detailed procedure for making changes in the Plans will be found in Sections 147.21 through 147.28 of the above publication.

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PROPOSED CHANGES  
in  
THE NATIONAL POULTRY IMPROVEMENT PLAN

DEFINITIONS

Proposal No. 1

§ 145.1 Add a new definition:

Started Chicks. Young chickens (chicks, pullets, cockerels, capons) which have been fed and watered and are less than 5 months of age.

and

§ 145.8 Add a new paragraph:

Started chicks may retain their identity under Plan terminology only when maintained by Plan participants under conditions described in section 145.5 (a).

Reason: This proposal would provide for verification of the classification, strain and trade name of started pullets sold by participants. Under the present provisions, it is not clear whether Plan terminology may be applied to started chicks. The proposed provision would also establish requirements for the premises on which participating flocks are grown.

Proponent: Poultry Improvement Staff, AH Division

GENERAL PROVISIONS FOR ALL PARTICIPANTS

Proposal No. 2

§ 145.4 (f) Change to read:

Each shipment of products to points outside the United States shall be accompanied by a properly executed Form NPIP-15F, Report of Sales of Hatching Eggs, Chicks and Poults (For Shipment Outside the United States).

Proposal No. 2 - Continued

Reason: Hawaii is as much a part of the United States as any other State; therefore, the Form NPIP-15F should not be required. As this regulation now stands it causes Plan hatcheries extra time and work to issue this form that is not required of a non-Plan hatchery.

Proponent: Washington Poultry Improvement Association, Inc.

SPECIFIC PROVISIONS FOR PARTICIPATING FLOCKS

Proposal No. 3

§ 145.5 (b) Change to read:

All flocks shall consist of birds that have been selected as healthy, normal individuals, characteristic of the breed and variety, cross, or other combination which they are stated to represent and free from physical deformities of economic importance by an Authorized Agent or State Inspector.

and

§ 145.5 (c) Change to read:

A flock shall be deemed to be a participating flock at any time only if it has been officially blood tested within the past 12 months, with no pullorum or typhoid reactors on the first official blood test: Provided, that if a reactor or reactors are found on the first test, the flock may qualify with two consecutive official negative tests.

and

§ 145.9 First sentence - change to read:

Participating hatcheries and dealers shall be designated as "U. S. Approved Hatchery" and "U. S. Approved Dealer", respectively.

and

§ 145.10 (e) (f) (g) Delete

Reason: The purpose of this proposal is to eliminate U. S. Approved as a breeding classification and yet retain the terminology which has been associated with the Plan from its inception as a meaningful



Proposal No. 3 - Continued

term denoting Plan participation. In fact, the term, U. S. Approved, under this proposal would more nearly reflect the actual usage of the term by poultrymen, especially in the Midwest, than is the case at present.

The change proposed in section 145.5 (c) would make the testing requirements for all flocks equal to our present classification, U. S. Pullorum-Typhoid Clean. In other words, all flocks, chicks, and hatching eggs of participants in the program would meet the minimum requirements for "Clean." In view of this, it would appear to be no longer a need for the classification terminology. Terms such as "Clean" and "Passed" might then be used in connection with other disease control programs, such as Typhimurium and Mycoplasma gallisepticum, as they become a part of the Plan.

Section 145.5 (b) is changed to make it similar to the corresponding provision in the NTIP, section 146.5 (b).

Proponent: Harry J. Reed, Kansas Poultry Association

Proposal No. 4

§145.5 (b) Change to read:

All flocks shall consist of birds that have been selected as healthy, normal individuals, characteristic of the breed and variety, cross, or other combination which they are stated to represent and free from physical deformities of economic importance by an Authorized Agent or State Inspector.

and

§145.9 First sentence - change to read:

Participating hatcheries and dealers shall be designated as "U. S. Approved Hatchery" and "U. S. Approved Dealer", respectively.

Reason: This is an alternate to Proposal No. 3 and should be considered in the event Proposal No. 3 is not acceptable.

Proposal No. 4 - Continued

This proposal makes the same basic change with respect to U. S. Approved as is suggested in Proposal No. 3 but retains the Pullorum-Typhoid classifications as they are at present. The first and third paragraphs of the Reason for Proposal No. 3 are applicable to this proposal.

Proponent: Harry J. Reed, Kansas Poultry Association

Proposal No. 5

§145.5 (c) Change to incorporate the following:

1. That a program for partial testing be made available to participants in States where pullorum and typhoid are reportable diseases. (States having regulations that require all isolations of S. pullorum and S. gallinarum to be reported to the State disease control agency.)
2. A flock may qualify for participation by partial testing only when it is composed entirely of birds that originated from flocks that qualified as U. S. Pullorum-Typhoid Clean on the basis of an official blood test of all birds in the flock.
3. A flock may qualify for participation by partial testing only when located on a farm where U. S. Pullorum-Typhoid Clean flocks, and no other flocks, have been maintained for at least two years with no evidence of infection. (Flocks in which infection occurs would require 100% testing of the birds on that farm with no reactors for two years to be eligible for qualification by partial testing.)
4. When flock qualification is based on partial testing by the tube, serum plate or whole-blood method, the tests shall be conducted by a representative of the Official State Agency. (Tests may be conducted by Authorized Agents when flock qualification is based on tests of 100% of the birds in the flock.)
5. The minimum size of the sample to be tested shall be based on the size of the flock in accordance with the following:

Proposal No. 5 - Continued

<u>No. of Birds in Flock</u>	<u>No. of Birds in Sample</u>	<u>No. of Birds in Flock</u>	<u>No. of Birds in Sample</u>
425 or less	all birds	1001 - 1500	650
426 - 500	425	1501 - 2000	700
501 - 600	475	2001 - 3000	750
601 - 700	525	3001 - 4000	800
701 - 800	550	4001 - 5000	850
801 - 900	575	5001 or more	925
901 - 1000	600		

6. The sample of birds tested shall be a representative sample drawn on a pro rata basis from all pens or units in the flock.
7. When one or more reactors are found in the sample, all birds in the flock shall be tested, and qualification for a pullorum-typhoid classification shall be based on the testing of all birds.

Reason: The 1962 National Plans Conference recommended the appointment of a special committee to study proposals relating to partial testing for pullorum-typhoid classification and submit a report to the General Conference Committee. In consideration of this report, the General Conference Committee developed a statement of policy to the effect that changes with respect to partial testing should be considered only with the view of improvement of the overall program. The resulting program should provide equal or greater assurance than the present program against pullorum-typhoid infection. Any relaxation of testing or other control procedures should be offset by compensating procedures to serve as additional safeguards. In line with this policy, the General Conference Committee proposed this change which is based on the recommendations of the special Committee.

Proponent: General Conference Committee

Proposal No. 6

§145.5 (c) Add:

---- except that, at the discretion of the Official State Agency, a flock may be deemed a participating flock without having been officially blood tested provided it meets the following conditions:



Proposal No. 6 - Continued

1. The premises on which the flock is located shall have had participating flocks during the past 5 years with no reactors having been found.
2. The flock originated from a source having a U. S. Pullorum-Typhoid Clean classification for at least the past two years.
3. The Official State Agency shall test a minimum of 5% of the flock.
4. Request for qualification of a flock in this manner shall be made by the participant in writing to the Official State Agency and may be granted only if all facilities and practices of the participant are adequate to deem granting such qualification advisable.

Reason: Many flocks participating in the Plan are kept on premises that have no record of Pullorum-Typhoid infection for many years. We feel that the testing of such flocks is unnecessary provided the safeguards included in the above proposal are met. Subparagraph 4 provides for a review of the participant's facilities and practices prior to granting qualification on this basis. This means that specific sanitary procedures and any other safeguards may be imposed as a prerequisite for participation under this provision.

Proponent: Herald Barton, Silver Lake Hatchery and Breeding Farm,  
Silver Lake, Minnesota

Proposal No. 7

§145.5 (c) Add:

---- except that, at the discretion of the Official State Agency, a flock may be deemed a participating flock, subject to the following conditions:

1. The premises on which the flock is located shall have had participating flocks during the past two years with no reactors having been found.

Proposal No. 7 - Continued

2. Blood testing of flocks qualified under this exception is not required but the Official State Agency may make partial or complete tests at any time and shall do so when reports indicate flock infection. In the event that a flock is found to be infected with pullorum or typhoid, it shall lose its classification as a U. S. Pullorum-Typhoid Clean flock. For two years following such infection, this or any other flock on the same premises may qualify for a U. S. Pullorum-Typhoid Clean classification only on the basis of a complete official blood test.

Reason: In view of the controversy with respect to the necessity for continuous routine testing of all participating flocks, it appears that consideration should be given to allowing Official State Agencies some discretion in adjusting the testing requirements in consideration of the history of the premises on which the flock is located.

Proponent: Bruce R. Davisson, Ohio Poultry Association

Proposal No. 8

§145.5 (c) Change to read:

A flock shall be deemed to be a participating flock only when:

1. It has been officially bloodtested within the past 12 months with no pullorum or typhoid reactors on the last test (See section 145.14 relating to the bloodtest); or
2. It is located in a U. S. Pullorum-Typhoid Free Area.

and

Part 145 Add a new section providing for the establishment of eradication areas, incorporating the following:

Pullorum-Typhoid Eradication Area. An area consisting of one or more States may be designated as a Pullorum-Typhoid Eradication Area when it complies with the following:



Phase I

1. All turkey and chicken breeding flocks as well as other fowl when deemed necessary by the Official State Animal Disease Control Agency shall be under a pullorum-typhoid control program and shall be classified as U. S. Pullorum-Typhoid Clean. For those hatcheries and flocks which do not wish to participate in the National Plans Program (NPIP and NTIP), a program involving only the disease control phase and acceptable to the Animal Disease Control Agency shall be made available to the industry.
2. Pullorum disease and fowl typhoid shall be reportable diseases.
3. Pullorum disease and fowl typhoid infected flocks shall be placed under quarantine and the marketing of such flocks supervised.
4. Poultry consigned to public exhibition shall originate from pullorum-typhoid clean flocks.
5. Importations of poultry into a Pullorum-Typhoid Eradication Area shall meet the same standards as hatcheries and breeding flocks of the area.

Phase II

1. Required Standards of Phase I.
2. A random sample pullorum test of 20% or more of the laying flocks in the area, except hatchery supply flocks, shall be made yearly. Premises on which infected flocks were found will be inspected yearly until the mature poultry maintained on these premises are found negative to the pullorum-typhoid test for two consecutive years. Each year different premises will be selected until all premises having laying flocks have been inspected and tested. Blood samples may be collected on the farm or at the slaughter plant. Once Phase II has been accomplished, then the area is eligible for Phase III.

U. S. Pullorum-Typhoid Free Area (Phase III). An area may be designated as a U. S. Pullorum-Typhoid Free Area when it has complied with the following:

Proposal No. 8 - Continued

1. Standards of Phase I and II have been met.
2. A random sample testing program on a limited number of selected flocks shall be instituted by the Official State Agency to replace the testing requirements outlined in Phases I and II.
3. No known outbreak of pullorum disease or fowl typhoid has been identified in the area for a two year period.
4. All poultry and hatching eggs moving into the Pullorum-Typhoid Free Area must originate from a Pullorum-Typhoid Free Area except under special permit.
5. Any pullorum or typhoid outbreak would require marketing under supervision of infected and exposed flocks as soon as economically feasible. Infected premises and facilities shall be cleaned and disinfected under the supervision of the State Animal Disease Control Agency.

Reason: Testing reports indicate that the incidence of pullorum disease and fowl typhoid has been reduced to very low levels in most areas. Consideration should be given to an eradication program that will eventually alleviate the need for continuous routine blood testing.

This proposal provides (1) measures for achieving complete eradication of pullorum-typhoid within an area, (2) methods of determining when eradication has been attained, and (3) recognition of areas in which the diseases have been eradicated.

Proponent: B. S. Pomeroy, University of Minnesota

Proposal No. 9

§145.5 (c) Change to read:

A flock shall be deemed to be a participating flock only when:

1. It has been officially bloodtested within the past 12 months with no pullorum or typhoid reactors on the last test (See section 145.14 relating to the blood test), or

2. It is located in a Pullorum-Typhoid Clean State on premises where participating flocks in which no reactors were found were maintained in each of the past two years and is composed entirely of birds that originated from flocks that qualified as U. S. Pullorum-Typhoid Clean on the basis of an official blood test of all birds in the flock.

and

Part 145 Add a new Section:

Pullorum-Typhoid Clean State. A State may be designated by the AH Division as a Pullorum-Typhoid Clean State when it is determined that:

1. All hatcheries and all chicken and turkey flocks used for breeding purposes within the State are participating in the National Poultry Improvement Plan or the National Turkey Improvement Plan.
2. Shipment of chicks, poults or hatching eggs other than U. S. Pullorum-Typhoid Clean into the State is prohibited.
3. All diagnostic laboratories within the State are required to report to the Official State Agency the source of all poultry specimens from which S. pullorum or S. gallinarum is isolated.
4. Any flock found to be infected with pullorum or typhoid is quarantined until marketed under the supervision of the Official State Agency or State Livestock Sanitary Authority or a blood test of all birds in the flock fails to demonstrate pullorum or typhoid infection. When infection is found in a participating flock, the flock shall lose its classification, and for two years following such infection, this or any other flock on the same premises may qualify as a U. S. Pullorum-Typhoid Clean flock only on the basis of official blood test conducted by a State Inspector on all birds in the flock.



Proposal No. 9 - Continued

Reason: Some States have attained complete or near complete freedom from pullorum and typhoid as demonstrated by tests of flocks used for breeding purposes. Many breeding flocks are kept on premises that have records of no pullorum-typhoid infection for many years. It appears unnecessary under such circumstances to continue the routine testing of all breeding flocks. With the safeguards included in the proposal, the resulting program should more effectively control pullorum-typhoid than under the present provisions.

Proponent: Poultry Improvement Staff, AH Division

SPECIFIC PROVISIONS FOR PARTICIPATING HATCHERIES

Proposal No. 10

§145.6 (a) Add between first and second sentences:

Air sampling with the Andersen Air Sampler or its equivalent shall be performed as a part of routine hatchery inspection. Media such as Tryptose agar should be used to detect the degree of bacterial and mold contamination. A selective medium such as SS agar should be used in the hatching units, while chicks are hatching, to detect the presence of Salmonella organisms.

Reason: For the hatchery inspector, air sampling is a guide as to the degree of general hatchery cleanliness. Major sources of contamination or bacterial build-up can be pinpointed and corrective measures may then be made.

Proponent: Division of Animal Industry, Florida Department of Agriculture

Proposal No. 11

§145.6 (a)(4) Add:

---- and in a manner satisfactory to the Official State Agency.

Reason: A number of States have dead bird and hatchery residue disposal laws. Other States are contemplating such a law. This proposal would add strength to enforcement of State disposal laws.

Proponent: Division of Animal Industry, Florida Department of Agriculture

TERMINOLOGY AND CLASSIFICATION; GENERAL

Proposal No. 12

§145.8 (d) Delete "domesticated waterfowl."

Reason: Pullorum-typhoid infection is not a factor in duck mortality. It is not a factor, nor could it be a factor in the spread of pullorum or typhoid to gallinaceous birds.

Proponent: Poultry Improvement Board of New York, Inc.

TERMINOLOGY AND CLASSIFICATION; FLOCKS AND PRODUCTS

Proposal No. 13

§145.10 (f) Delete

Reason: Last year 96% of all Plan participants were classified as Pullorum-Typhoid Clean. If further progress is to be made in the pullorum-typhoid disease control phase, all participants should be required to qualify as Pullorum-Typhoid Clean.

Proponent: Division of Animal Industry, Florida Department of Agriculture



## BLOOD TESTING

### Proposal No. 14

§145.14 (f) Add between 4th and 5th sentences:

If S. typhimurium, S. heidelberg, S. infantis, S. st. paul or other serotypes known to cause Salmonellosis in poultry are isolated, the flock shall not be eligible for participation until further tests demonstrate that the infection has been eliminated from the flock.

Reason: The proposed provision would not give assurance that qualified flocks were not infected with the specified or other serotypes but should decrease the spread of paratyphoid. Under the present provisions, flocks known to be infected with disease-causing serotypes may be continued as breeding flocks without discrimination.

Proponent: Poultry Improvement Staff, AH Division

### Proposal No. 15

§145.14 (g) Add:

Immediately following a pullorum break traceable to a participant, the Official State Agency shall list all suspect supply flocks and cause each of these flocks to be retested by a State Inspector before any more eggs can be set from these flocks.

Reason: Spot or sample testing by State Agencies or reported retesting by participants are not responsible means of uncovering the source of pullorum, particularly in interstate shipment of hatching eggs. State Agency responsibility would extend to actual retesting in an effort to minimize embarrassment to NPIP and State Agencies.

Proponent: Baxter Newton, Wisconsin Department of Agriculture

Proposal No. 16

§145.14 (g) Add:

When S. pullorum or S. gallinarum is isolated from a specimen which originated in a participating hatchery, the State Inspector shall attempt to locate and eliminate the source of the infection. The results of the Inspector's investigation shall be reported to the Official State Agency and the AH Division.

Reason: Locating and eliminating the foci of infection are essential to further reduction in the incidence of pullorum disease and fowl typhoid. The proposed reporting procedure should result in more consistent and complete follow-up of isolations.

Proponent: Poultry Improvement Staff, AH Division

Proposal No. 17

§145.14 (h) Delete

Reason: This regulation is not enforceable.

Proponent: Earl Reitsma, Oregon Department of Agriculture

U. S. RECORD OF PERFORMANCE

Proposal No. 18

§§145.15 through 145.21, 145.10 (a) and other references to U. S. Record of Performance - Delete

and

§145.10 (c) Change to read:

U. S. Certified for Eggs. All males and females from Performance Tested Parent Stock for egg production mated in the same combination as used in the qualifying parent flock.

Proposal No. 18 - Continued

Reason: With increased emphasis on random sample test results as a basis for the evaluation of egg production stocks, participation in the ROP program and the use of ROP stock in hatchery supply flocks has declined to a level that does not seem to justify continuation of the program.

Proponent: Poultry Improvement Staff, AH Division

RANDOM SAMPLE EGG PRODUCTION TEST

Proposal No. 19

§145.26 (c) Add:

(19) Percent Large and Extra Large Eggs. Egg size distribution computed from all eggs laid one day each week per entry.

Reason: The National Committee on Random Sample Poultry Testing recommended that this trait be included in the published reports of random sample egg production tests.

Proponent: Poultry Improvement Staff, AH Division

PROPOSED CHANGES  
IN  
THE NATIONAL TURKEY IMPROVEMENT PLAN

DEFINITIONS

Proposal No. 20

§146.1 (r) Change to read:

Trade Name or Number. A name or number compatible with State or Federal laws and regulations applied to a specified stock or product thereof.

and

§146.8 (c)(2) Delete.

Reason: Lack of compliance indicates that Official State Agencies and breeders deem this provision unnecessary.

Proponent: Poultry Improvement Staff, AH Division

Proposal No. 21

§146.1 (s) Change to read:

Broad-breasted. A term used to describe a type of turkey which, at the time of selection and no later than 30 weeks of age, has a breast width, at a point 1-3/4 inches above the keel, of at least 4 inches for both toms and hens.

Reason: It is felt that, with improved breeding, the 3-1/2 inch measurement is no longer adequate for birds described as "Broad-breasted."

Proponent: Poultry Improvement Board of New York, Inc.



## GENERAL PROVISIONS FOR ALL PARTICIPANTS

### Proposal No. 22

§146.4 (e) Change to read:

The minimum weight of turkey hatching eggs shipped interstate shall be 2-2/3 ounces each, unless otherwise specified by the purchaser of the eggs. Eggs to be shipped interstate shall not be washed and shall be stamped with the date they were laid.

Reason: The minimum weight should be raised to 32 ounces per dozen on the individual egg and the case of 200, minimum of 37 pounds net. The shipment of washed eggs should be banned. It may be true that dipping and properly washing may be beneficial, but not before shipping. The buyer has no idea what he is getting until the improperly washed eggs start exploding in the incubator.

Proponent: Kenneth Smith, Lexington, Nebraska

### Proposal No. 23

§146.4 (h) Change to read:

Each shipment of products to points outside the United States shall be accompanied by a properly executed Form NPIP-15F, Report of Sales of Hatching Eggs, Chicks and Poults (For Shipment Outside the United States).

Reason: Hawaii is as much a part of the United States as any other State; therefore, the Form NPIP-15F should not be required. As this regulation now stands it causes Plan hatcheries extra time and work to issue this form that is not required of a non-Plan hatchery.

Proponent: Washington Poultry Improvement Association, Inc.



## SPECIFIC PROVISIONS FOR PARTICIPATING FLOCKS

Proposal No. 24

§146.5 (c) Add:

---- except that, at the discretion of the Official State Agency, a flock may be deemed a participating flock, subject to the following conditions:

1. The premises on which the flock is located shall have had participating flocks during the past two years with no reactors having been found.
2. Blood testing of flocks qualified under this exception is not required but the Official State Agency may make partial or complete tests at any time and shall do so when reports indicate flock infection. In the event that a flock is found to be infected with pullorum or typhoid, it shall lose its classification as a U. S. Pullorum-Typhoid Clean flock. For two years following such infection, this or any other flock on the same premises may qualify for a U. S. Pullorum-Typhoid Clean classification only on the basis of a complete official blood test.

Reason: In view of the controversy with respect to the necessity for continuous routine testing of all participating flocks, it appears that consideration should be given to allowing Official State Agencies some discretion in adjusting the testing requirements in consideration of the history of the premises on which the flock is located.

Proponent: Bruce R. Davisson, Ohio Poultry Association

§146.5 (c) Change to incorporate the following:

1. That a program for partial testing be made available to participants in States where pullorum and typhoid are reportable diseases. (States having regulations that require all isolations of S. pullorum and S. gallinarum to be reported to the State disease control agency)
2. A flock may qualify for participation by partial testing only when it is composed entirely of birds that originated from flocks that qualified as U. S. Pullorum-Typhoid Clean on the basis of an official blood test of all birds in the flock.
3. A flock may qualify for participation by partial testing only when located on a farm where U. S. Pullorum-Typhoid Clean flocks, and no other flocks, have been maintained for at least two years with no evidence of infection. (Flocks in which infection occurs would require 100% testing of the birds on that farm with no reactors for two years to be eligible for qualification by partial testing.)
4. The minimum size of the sample to be tested shall be based on the size of the flock in accordance with the following:

<u>No. of Birds in Flock</u>	<u>No. of Birds in Sample</u>	<u>No. of Birds in Flock</u>	<u>No. of Birds in Sample</u>
425 or less	all birds	1001 - 1500	650
426 - 500	425	1501 - 2000	700
501 - 600	475	2001 - 3000	750
601 - 700	525	3001 - 4000	800
701 - 800	550	4001 - 5000	850
801 - 900	575	5001 or more	925
901 - 1000	600		

5. The sample of birds tested shall be a representative sample drawn on a pro rata basis from all pens or units in the flock.

Proposal No. 25 - Continued

6. When one or more reactors are found in the sample, all birds in the flock shall be tested, and qualification for a pullorum-typhoid classification shall be based on the testing of all birds.

Reason: The 1962 National Plans Conference recommended the appointment of a special committee to study proposals relating to partial testing for pullorum-typhoid classification and submit a report to the General Conference Committee. In consideration of this report, the General Conference Committee developed a statement of policy to the effect that changes with respect to partial testing should be considered only with the view of improvement of the overall program. The resulting program should provide equal or greater assurance than the present program against pullorum-typhoid infection. Any relaxation of testing or other control procedures should be offset by compensating procedures to serve as additional safeguards. In line with this policy, the General Conference Committee proposed this change which is based on the recommendations of the special committee.

Proponent: General Conference Committee

Proposal No. 26

§146.5 (c) Change to read:

A flock shall be deemed to be a participating flock only when:

1. It has been officially bloodtested within the past 12 months with no pullorum or typhoid reactors on the last test (See section 146.14 relating to the bloodtest); or
2. It is located in a U. S. Pullorum-Typhoid Free Area.

and

Part 146 Add a new section providing for the establishment of eradication areas, incorporating the following:

Pullorum-Typhoid Eradication Area. An area consisting of one or more States may be designated as a Pullorum-Typhoid Eradication Area when it complies with the following:



Phase I

1. All turkey and chicken breeding flocks as well as other fowl when deemed necessary by the Official State Animal Disease Control Agency shall be under a pullorum-typhoid control program and shall be classified as U. S. Pullorum-Typhoid Clean. For those hatcheries and flocks which do not wish to participate in the National Plans Program (NPIP and NTIP), a program involving only the disease control phase and acceptable to the Animal Disease Control Agency shall be made available to the industry.
2. Pullorum disease and fowl typhoid shall be reportable diseases.
3. Pullorum disease and fowl typhoid infected flocks shall be placed under quarantine and the marketing of such flocks supervised.
4. Poultry consigned to public exhibition shall originate from pullorum-typhoid clean flocks.
5. Importations of poultry into a Pullorum-Typhoid Eradication Area shall meet the same standards as hatcheries and breeding flocks of the area.

Phase II

1. Required Standards of Phase I.
2. A random sample pullorum test of 20% or more of the laying flocks in the area, except hatchery supply flocks, shall be made yearly. Premises on which infected flocks were found will be inspected yearly until the mature poultry maintained on these premises are found negative to the pullorum-typhoid test for two consecutive years. Each year different premises will be selected until all premises having laying flocks have been inspected and tested. Blood samples may be collected on the farm or at the slaughter plant. Once Phase II has been accomplished, then the area is eligible for Phase III.

U. S. Pullorum-Typhoid Free Area (Phase III). An area may be designated as a U. S. Pullorum-Typhoid Free Area when it has complied with the following:

Proposal No. 26 - Continued

1. Standards of Phase I and II have been met.
2. A random sample testing program on a limited number of selected flocks shall be instituted by the Official State Agency to replace the testing requirements outlined in Phases I and II.
3. No known outbreak of pullorum disease or fowl typhoid has been identified in the area for a two year period.
4. All poultry and hatching eggs moving into the Pullorum-Typhoid Free Area must originate from a Pullorum-Typhoid Free Area except under special permit.
5. Any pullorum or typhoid outbreak would require marketing under supervision of infected and exposed flocks as soon as economically feasible. Infected premises and facilities shall be cleaned and disinfected under the supervision of the State Animal Disease Control Agency.

Reason: Testing reports indicate that the incidence of pullorum disease and fowl typhoid has been reduced to very low levels in most areas. Consideration should be given to an eradication program that will eventually alleviate the need for continuous routine blood testing.

This proposal provides (1) measures for achieving complete eradication of pullorum-typhoid within an area, (2) methods of determining when eradication has been attained, and (3) recognition of areas in which the diseases have been eradicated.

Proponent: B. S. Pomeroy, University of Minnesota

Proposal No. 27

§146.5 (c) Change to read:

A flock shall be deemed to be a participating flock only when:

1. It has been officially bloodtested within the past 12 months with no pullorum or typhoid reactors on the last test (See Sec. 146.14 relating to the blood test), or



2. It is located in a Pullorum-Typhoid Clean State on premises where participating flocks in which no reactors were found were maintained in each of the past two years and is composed entirely of birds that originated from flocks that qualified as U. S. Pullorum-Typhoid Clean on the basis of an official blood test of all birds in the flock.

and

Part 146 Add a new Section:

Pullorum-Typhoid Clean State. A State may be designated by the AH Division as a Pullorum-Typhoid Clean State when it is determined that:

1. All hatcheries and all chicken and turkey flocks used for breeding purposes within the State are participating in the National Poultry Improvement Plan or the National Turkey Improvement Plan.
2. Shipment of chicks, poults or hatching eggs other than U. S. Pullorum-Typhoid Clean into the State is prohibited.
3. All diagnostic laboratories within the State are required to report to the Official State Agency the source of all poultry specimens from which S. pullorum or S. gallinarum is isolated.
4. Any flock found to be infected with pullorum or typhoid is quarantined until marketed under the supervision of the Official State Agency or State Livestock Sanitary Authority or a blood test of all birds in the flock fails to demonstrate pullorum or typhoid infection. When infection is found in a participating flock, the flock shall lose its classification, and for two years following such infection, this or any other flock on the same premises may qualify as a U. S. Pullorum-Typhoid Clean flock only on the basis of official blood test conducted by a State Inspector on all birds in the flock.

Proposal No. 27 - Continued

Reason: Some States have attained complete or near complete freedom from pullorum and typhoid as demonstrated by tests of flocks used for breeding purposes. Many breeding flocks are kept on premises that have records of no pullorum-typhoid infection for many years. It appears unnecessary under such circumstances to continue routine testing of all breeding flocks. With the safeguards included in the proposal, the resulting program should more effectively control pullorum-typhoid than under the present provisions.

Proponent: Poultry Improvement Staff, AH Division

SPECIFIC PROVISIONS FOR PARTICIPATING HATCHERIES

Proposal No. 28

§146.6 (a) Add between first and second sentences:

Air sampling with the Andersen Air Sampler or its equivalent shall be performed as a part of routine hatchery inspection. Media such as Tryptose agar should be used to detect the degree of bacterial and mold contamination. A selective medium such as SS agar should be used in the hatching units, while poults are hatching, to detect the presence of Salmonella organisms.

Reason: For the hatchery inspector, air sampling is a guide as to the degree of general hatchery cleanliness. Major sources of contamination or bacterial build-up can be pinpointed and corrective measures may then be made.

Proponent: Division of Animal Industry, Florida Department of  
Agriculture

Proposal No. 29

§146.6 (a)(4) Add:

---- and in a manner satisfactory to the Official State Agency.

Reason: A number of States have dead bird and hatchery residue disposal laws. Other States are contemplating such a law. This proposal would add strength to enforcement of State disposal laws.

Proponent: Division of Animal Industry, Florida Department of Agriculture

TERMINOLOGY AND CLASSIFICATION

Proposal No. 30

§146.8 (d) Delete "domesticated waterfowl."

Reason: Pullorum-typhoid infection is not a factor in duck mortality. It is not a factor, nor could it be a factor in the spread of pullorum or typhoid to gallinaceous birds.

Proponent: Poultry Improvement Board of New York, Inc.

Proposal No. 31

§146.10 (e) and (f) Delete  
and

§146.5 (c) Change to read:

A flock shall be deemed to be a participating flock at any time only if it has been officially blood tested within the past 12 months with no pullorum or typhoid reactors on the first official blood test: Provided, That if a reactor or reactors are found on the first test the flock may qualify with two consecutive official negative tests.

and

§146.9 Change first sentence to read:

Participating hatcheries and dealers shall be designated as "U. S. Approved Hatchery" and "U. S. Approved Dealer," respectively.



Proposal No. 31 - Continued

Reason: The purpose of this proposal is to eliminate U. S. Approved as a breeding classification and yet retain the terminology which has been associated with the Plan from its inception. In fact, the term U. S. Approved under this proposal would more nearly reflect the actual usage of the term by poultrymen, especially in the Midwest, than is the case at present.

The change proposed in Section 146.5 (c) would make the testing requirements for all flocks equal to our present classification U. S. Pullorum-Typhoid Clean. In other words, all flocks, poults, and hatching eggs of participants in the program would meet the minimum requirements for Clean. In view of this, it would appear that the need for the classification terminology would no longer exist. Terms such as Clean and Passed might then be used in connection with other disease control programs, such as typhimurium and Mycoplasma gallisepticum, as they become a part of the Plan.

Proponent: Harry J. Reed, Kansas Poultry Association

Proposal No. 32

§146.10 (e) Delete.

and

§146.9 Change first sentence to read:

Participating hatcheries and dealers shall be designated as "U. S. Approved Hatchery" and "U. S. Approved Dealer", respectively.

Reason: This is an alternate to proposal No. 31 for consideration in the event proposal No. 31 is not acceptable.

The purpose of this proposal is to eliminate U. S. Approved as a breeding classification and yet retain the terminology which has been associated with the Plan from its inception. In fact, the term U. S. Approved under this proposal would more nearly reflect the actual usage of the term by poultrymen, especially in the Midwest, than is the case at present.



Proposal No. 32 - Continued

Proponent: Harry J. Reed, Kansas Poultry Association

Proposal No. 33

§146.10 Add a new paragraph:

(g) U. S. M. Gallisepticum Tested.

1. Flocks in which no reactors were found when tested in accordance with the following procedures:
  - (i) The flock shall be isolated from all other domestic fowl, as provided in Section 147.36 (See 2nd part of this proposal).
  - (ii) A random sample of at least 10% of the birds in the flocks shall be tested when more than four months of age. When this method is used, retests of 10% of the flock will be made at 60 to 70 day intervals for the life of the flock. In lieu of the above, 100% testing can be done at time of Pullorum-Typhoid testing.
  - (iii) The blood samples shall be drawn by an authorized agent or State Inspector and shall be tested by an authorized laboratory using either the serum plate agglutination test, the tube agglutination test, hemagglutination inhibition test, or a combination of two or more of these tests. The HI test shall be used on all reactors as the final test to determine presence of Mycoplasma gallisepticum.
  - (iv) The tests shall be conducted, using antigen approved by the Department when approval is granted in accordance with the recommendations of the manufacturer of the antigen.
2. When reactors are submitted as prescribed by the Official State Agency and the laboratory fails to demonstrate pathogenic M. gallisepticum infection or antibodies as demonstrated by the HI test, the flock shall be deemed to have had no M. gallisepticum reactors.

3. A flock qualified as U. S. M. gallisepticum Tested may retain the classification for one year, provided it is maintained in isolation and no evidence of M. gallisepticum infection is revealed by subsequent tests, as outlined in Paragraph (1), subparagraph (ii).
4. In order to sell hatching eggs or poults of this classification, all hatching eggs and poults handled by the participant must be of this classification.

and

Part 147 Add a new section, to read:

Section 147.36. Procedures for Establishing Isolation and Maintaining Sanitation and Good Management Practices for the Control of Mycoplasma gallisepticum:

(a) Required procedures:

1. Allow no visitors except under controlled conditions.
2. Maintain breeder flocks on farms free from market birds or follow proper isolation procedures as approved by the Official State Agency.
3. Eliminate other fowl from breeder farm.
4. Dispose of all dead birds by burning, deep burial, or by putting them in special disposal pits.

(b) Recommended procedures:

1. Avoid the introduction of eggs, poults, or adults from breeding stock until proved free from Mycoplasma gallisepticum infection.
2. Prevent transmission from outside sources by indirect contact through contaminated equipment, footwear, clothing, vehicles, or other mechanical sources.
3. Provide adequate isolation of breeder flocks to avoid airborne transmission from infected flocks.

Proposal No. 33 - Continued

4. Minimize contact of breeder flocks with game and free-flying birds.
5. Keep the rodent population and other pests under control.
6. Tailor vaccination programs to needs of farm and area.
7. Clean and disinfect equipment after each use.
8. Provide clean footwear and provide an adequate security program.
9. Clean and disinfect houses between flocks.
10. Use well-drained range.
11. Use clean, dry litter free of mold.
12. Keep accurate records of death losses.
13. Seek services of veterinary diagnostician if abnormal losses or signs of disease occur.
14. Adopt and maintain a clean egg program.

Reason: Several States now have programs for the control of M. gallisepticum in turkeys, and the need for uniformity in the basic provisions of the programs has become obvious. Such uniformity can best be obtained by establishing terminology and criteria under the provisions of the NTIP. The proposed provisions incorporate the procedures followed by existing State Programs and allow egress and entry without special dispositions as long as minimum standards are met and in general comply with the recommendations of the General Conference Committee.

Proponent: Turkey Department, Indiana State Poultry Association, Inc.



Part 146 Add a new section incorporating the following:

1. That the National Turkey Improvement Plan be expanded and amended to include an optional Salmonella typhimurium control program as one of its official programs on a strictly voluntary basis. Participation in this program would not be dependent on participation in the U. S. Pullorum-Typhoid Clean classification.
  - a. There should be official recognition for participating flocks and hatcheries in the S. typhimurium control program. Qualifying flocks or hatcheries shall be designated as "Participating in U. S. Typhimurium Control Program." There shall be no product designation.
  - b. The sanitation procedures described in Subpart D - Auxiliary Provisions on National Poultry and Turkey Improvement Plans - are strongly recommended and, in addition, it is recommended that the participants entering into the U. S. Typhimurium Control Program must carry out preincubation fumigation of hatching eggs, as described in Section 147.35 (a), within 8 hours and preferably immediately after gathering. Soiled eggs shall be collected separately. Dirty eggs shall not be used for hatching purposes.
  - c. All birds in candidate flocks shall be tested, using the serum agglutination test with S. typhimurium antigen. (See USDA MP 739, Sec. 147.4. Revision of Sec. 147.4, including possible deletion of "H" antigen and inclusion of the serum plate test, should be considered by an appropriate technical committee.) Flocks in which no reactors are found are eligible for participation in the U. S. Typhimurium Control Program.

The agglutination test is a "finding test" and must be used and interpreted strictly on a flock basis.

Reactors may be submitted to a laboratory for autopsy and bacteriological examination. The laboratory and the number of reactors to be submitted shall be designated by the Official State Agency.



When reactors are submitted within 10 days from date of reading the test and the bacteriological examination fails to demonstrate S. typhimurium infection, the flock shall be deemed to have had no S. typhimurium reactors. If other members of the Salmonella or Arizona group are isolated, the Official State Agency may disqualify the flock for participation or require such other action as is deemed necessary.

When S. typhimurium infection is found, the Official State Agency shall act to urge proper measures to assure non-use of such flocks for commercial hatching egg production and will counsel concerning clean-up or possible retests. With the approval and under the supervision of the Official State Agency, removal of reactors and retesting may be used to qualify such flocks.

- d. A hatchery may qualify as "Participating in U. S. Typhimurium Control Program" when all eggs handled are from flocks qualified for this designation.

Explanation: This proposal is based on the report of a committee, appointed at the request of the 1962 National Plans Conference, to study problems involved in typhimurium control programs for both chickens and turkeys.

Proponent: General Conference Committee

### BLOOD TESTING

#### Proposal No. 35

§146.14 (f) Add between fourth and fifth sentences:

If S. typhimurium, S. heidelberg, S. infantis, S. st. paul, or other serotypes known to cause Salmonellosis in poultry are isolated, the flock shall not be eligible for participation until further tests demonstrate that the infection has been eliminated from the flock.

Proposal No. 35 - Continued

Reason: The proposed provision would not give assurance that qualified flocks were not infected with the specified or other serotypes but should decrease the spread of paratyphoid. Under the present provisions, flocks known to be infected with disease-causing serotypes may be continued as breeding flocks without discrimination.

Proponent: Poultry Improvement Staff, AH Division

Proposal No. 36

§146.14 (g) Add:

Immediately following a pullorum break traceable to a participant, the Official State Agency shall list all suspect supply flocks and cause each of these flocks to be retested by an Official State Agency before any more eggs can be set from these flocks.

Reason: Spot or sample testing by State Agencies or reported retesting by participants are not responsible means of uncovering the source of pullorum, particularly in interstate shipment of hatching eggs. State Agency responsibility would extend to actual retesting in an effort to minimize embarrassment to NTIP and State Agencies.

Proponent: Baxter Newton, Wisconsin Department of Agriculture

Proposal No. 37

§146.14 (g) Add:

When S. pullorum or S. gallinarum is isolated from a specimen which originated in a participating hatchery, the State Inspector shall attempt to locate and eliminate the source of the infection. The results of the Inspector's investigation shall be reported to the Official State Agency and the AH Division.

Proposal No. 37 - Continued

Reason: Locating and eliminating the foci of infection are essential to further reduction in the incidence of pullorum disease and fowl typhoid. The proposed reporting procedure should result in more consistent and complete follow-up of isolations.

Proponent: Poultry Improvement Staff, AH Division

Proposal No. 38

§146.14 (h) Delete.

Reason: This regulation is not enforceable.

Proponent: Earl Reitsma, Oregon Department of Agriculture

U. S. RECORD OF PERFORMANCE

Proposal No. 39

§§146.15 through 146.28, 146.10 (a) and (d); and other references to U. S. Record of Performance - Delete.

Reason: Participation in the ROP program and the use of ROP stock in hatchery supply flocks has declined to a level that does not seem to justify continuation of the program.

Proponent: Poultry Improvement Staff, AH Division

## CENTRAL TURKEY MEAT PRODUCTION TEST

### Proposal No. 40

§146.30 (i)(9) Delete.

Reason: At the 1963 meeting of the National Turkey Federation Committee on the National Turkey Improvement Plan, it was pointed out that the repeatability of test results for most of the traits was good, but that for market quality, expressed as Percent Grade A, repeatability was very low. It was concluded that the publication of market grade data in the report of test results was misleading. A motion to delete this data from future reports was adopted.

Proponent: NTIP Committee of the National Turkey Federation



PROPOSED CHANGES IN AUXILIARY PROVISIONS  
ON  
NATIONAL POULTRY AND TURKEY IMPROVEMENT PLANS

Proposal No. 41

§147.21 Add a new definition:

NPIP and NTIP Conference. A national assembly or series of regional assemblies of representatives of Official State Agencies to develop recommendations for revisions in the provisions of this subchapter.

and

§147.27 (j) Add:

---- provided that when the Conference is composed of regional assemblies, the proposed changes shall be adopted by a majority vote of the members of the General Conference Committee subsequent to voting by the State delegates.

Reason: The established procedure of having a biennial National Plans Conference may no longer be necessary to keep the provisions of the National Plans in line with industry needs.

The proposal would provide some flexibility to meet current needs in the procedure followed for adopting changes. Periodic conferences on a regional basis have been effective in the development of better operating procedures, and it appears that on occasion such meetings could effectively serve as an alternate means of revising the provisions.

Proponent: Poultry Improvement Staff, AH Division

Proposal No. 42

§147.25 (a) First sentence, change to read:

The General Conference Committee shall consist of the Poultry Coordinator in charge, National Poultry and Turkey Improvement Plans, AH Division, who shall serve as chairman, and one member to be elected from each of the following regions:

Explanation: This change, providing that "a full-time salaried officer or employee of the Government" shall serve as chairman of the committee, is consistent with Executive Order 11007 and the ARS Committee Management Program.

It is understood that the present chairman, elected prior to the Executive Order, shall continue to serve as chairman until the committee is reconstituted at the 1964 National Plans Conference.

Proponent: General Conference Committee

Proposal No. 43

§147.25 (c) Change to read:

Three members shall be elected at each NPIP and NTIP Conference. Each member shall serve for a period of 4 years, subject to the continuation of the committee by the Secretary of Agriculture, and may not succeed himself.

Explanation: This change is consistent with the Committee Management Program of the Department, which provides "An advisory committee whose duration is not otherwise fixed by law shall terminate not later than two years from the date of its formation unless the Secretary determines in writing not more than 60 days prior to the expiration of such two-year period that its continued existence is in the public interest."

Proponent: General Conference Committee

RECOMMENDATIONS  
TO  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Proposal No. 44

Amend recommendations of General Conference Committee relative to PPLO Control Program as follows: (Note - The recommendation referred to appears under "Reference Material Relative to PPLO Control Programs", in this publication.)

(a) Antigen. Change 2nd sentence to read:

All Antigens should be prepared by a standard method using the same medium, enrichments, etc.

Additions to read:

The stains, preservatives, diluent, and strains of M. gallisepticum should be standardized.

Each antigen should be tested after various conditions of storage, i. e. 37<sup>o</sup>, 21<sup>o</sup>, and 5<sup>o</sup> C. (Antigens should not be frozen)

Each antigen should be block-titrated against standardized sera.

(b) Training of laboratory personnel to conduct tests.

Addition to read:

The amount of serum and antigen used in the tests should be constant.

A titer should be set for positive reactions.

Addition to read:

(e) Questionable Reactors.

Five or more reactors should be submitted to authorized diagnostic laboratory for necropsy and additional serologic tests.

All or not more than 25 reactor birds (the same individuals) shall be retested in two weeks to determine change in titers.



Flocks:

1. Add to read: however, if only clinical signs of disease are observed, further tests shall be conducted to determine the etiology of the disease in question.
3. Delete

Reason: The California Poultry Improvement Advisory Board concurs in general with the June 27-28, 1963, report of the NPIP and NTIP General Conference Committee with reference to the PPLO Control Program. However, it is our opinion that certain additions and deletions to these recommendations are desirable to provide progress toward further standardization of M. gallisepticum services and the eventual eradication of the disease.

Proponent: California Poultry Improvement Advisory Board

## REFERENCE MATERIAL RELATIVE TO PPLO CONTROL PROGRAMS

1. General Conference Committee Recommendations - (Excerpt from report of the June 27-28, 1963 meeting)

The Committee endorsed the recommendations of the Work Conference with respect to PPLO Control. These recommendations were:

1. That standard and uniform services pertaining to Mycoplasma gallisepticum detection and control be made available to the poultry industry at State, area or local levels, when such services are requested.
2. That this Conference endorses in principle the four recommendations of the USDA group concerned with Mycoplasma gallisepticum infection in poultry made at a meeting held in Washington, D. C., January 24, 1963, with the understanding that the Department carry out these objectives.

The four recommendations, with amendments as suggested by this Conference, are as follows:

(a) Antigen. There is a need for a reliable single source of antigen to meet existing and increasing demands. It is recommended that ADP and its cooperating research workers\* and AIQ develop specific production and testing standards for the antigen. ADE should produce the antigen according to these standards, provided funds are available. If funds are not available, commercial production of the antigen, subject to the above standards, should be encouraged.

(b) Training of laboratory personnel to conduct tests. ADP should arrange a workshop with its cooperating research workers\* to develop standard techniques for conducting laboratory tests. ADE should conduct training courses to teach such techniques to State and Federal laboratory personnel.

(c) Standard terminology. A standard terminology should be developed for identifying flocks, counties, and States which are participating in programs for the control and/or eradication of M. gallisepticum infection. AH and ADE, in cooperation with industry representatives, research workers\*, and State Livestock Sanitary officials, should develop such terminology.

\* It is understood that this will include members of (1) American Association of Avian Pathologists and (2) Committee on Air Sac Disease Research Program.

1. General Conference Committee Recommendations - Continued

(d) Education. There is a need for initiation of an educational program designed to disseminate information to poultrymen on appropriate measures for the control and eradication of M. gallisepticum. This should be formulated cooperatively by the Federal Extension Service, ADE and AH.

3. That research, including the evaluation of detection and control methods, be continued.

The Committee recommended, in regard to proposed standard terminology (Item 2 (c) ), that the following terms be used to identify flocks and hatcheries participating in a program for the control of M. gallisepticum:

- M.G. Tested Flocks - flocks in which each bird was tested;  
M.G. Sample Tested Flocks - flocks in which at least 10% of the birds were tested;  
M.G. Tested Hatchery - a hatchery in which all eggs set are produced by M.G. Tested Flocks;  
M.G. Sample Tested Hatchery - a hatchery in which all eggs set are from M.G. Sample Tested Flocks or from M.G. Sample Tested and M.G. Tested Flocks.

It was recommended that these terms be applied under the following conditions:

Flocks:

1. The flock is free of clinical or serological evidence of M. gallisepticum infection;
2. Each bird, or a random sample of at least 10% of the flock, with a minimum of 100 birds, was tested for M. gallisepticum when more than 4 months of age by a method recommended by the Animal Disease and Parasite Research Division;
3. Flocks are retested periodically to verify the infection-free status. At least 10% of the flock, with a minimum of 100 birds selected at random, are included in each periodic test. Turkey flocks are retested at intervals of 2 months and chicken flocks, at intervals of 3 months.
4. A sample of embryos or cull chicks or poults from each flock is examined each month for evidence of infection.



1. General Conference Committee Recommendations - Continued

5. Flocks are maintained in conformity with the following:

- a. Maintain breeder flocks on farms free of market flocks;
- b. Avoid the introduction of eggs, poults, chicks, or adults from breeding stock until proved free of M. gallisepticum infection;
- c. Prevent transmission from outside sources by indirect contact through contaminated equipment, footwear, clothing, vehicles, or other mechanical sources;
- d. Provide adequate isolation of breeder flocks to avoid air-borne transmission from infected flocks;
- e. Minimize contact of breeder flocks with game and free-flying birds;
- f. Eliminate other fowl from breeder farm;
- g. Keep the rodent population and other pests under control;
- h. Tailor vaccination programs to needs of farm and area;
- i. Allow no visitors except under controlled conditions;
- j. Clean and disinfect equipment after each use;
- k. Provide clean footwear and provide an adequate security program;
- l. Clean and disinfect houses between flocks;
- m. Use well-drained range;
- n. Use clean, dry litter free of mold;
- o. Keep accurate records of death losses;
- p. Dispose of all dead birds by burning, deep burial, or by putting them in special disposal pits;
- q. Seek services of veterinary diagnostician if abnormal losses or signs of disease occur;
- r. Adopt and maintain a clean egg program.

1. General Conference Committee Recommendations - Continued

Hatcheries:

1. The sanitation practices in M. G. Tested and M. G. Sample Tested Hatcheries conform to the following:
  - (a) The hatchery building should be arranged so that separate rooms, with separate ventilation, are provided for each of the four operations: Egg receiving, incubation and hatching, chick holding, and disposal of offal and cleaning of trays. These rooms should be placed under isolation so that admission is granted only to specifically authorized personnel who have taken proper precautions to prevent introduction of diseases.
  - (b) The hatchery rooms, and tables, racks, and other equipment in them should be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected frequently. All hatchery wastes and offal should be burned or otherwise properly disposed of, and the containers used to remove such materials should be cleaned and sterilized after each use.
  - (c) The hatching compartments of incubators, including the hatching trays, should be thoroughly cleaned and fumigated after each hatch.
  - (d) Only clean eggs should be used for hatching purposes. All eggs set should be fumigated prior to setting or as soon as possible (preferably within 12 hours) after they are placed in the incubator. They should also be fumigated after transfer to a separate hatcher. (See section 147.35 of Miscellaneous Publication No. 739.)
  - (e) Only new or clean, fumigated egg cases should be used for transportation of hatching eggs. Soiled egg case fillers should be destroyed.
  - (f) Day-old chicks, poults or other newly hatched poultry should be distributed in clean, new boxes. All crates and vehicles used for transporting started or adult birds should be cleaned and disinfected after each use.



2. Proposed Criteria and Terminology Applicable to Mycoplasma Gallisepticum Control Measures - (Note: These recommendations were developed by the AH and ADE Divisions of ARS, April 1964.)

The purpose of this criteria and terminology is to provide the poultry industry with a uniform means of identifying flocks, hatcheries and poultry products produced under programs for the control of Mycoplasma gallisepticum. This criteria and terminology applies to Mycoplasma gallisepticum infection in turkeys (Infectious Sinusitis) and chickens (Chronic Respiratory Disease).

1. M. gallisepticum Tested Flock:

A flock in which all birds have been tested, turkeys when over four months of age or chickens when over five months of age, for M. gallisepticum by an authorized laboratory with all tests determined negative by the procedures outlined in paragraph 8. The flock must also meet the conditions specified in paragraph 7.

2. M. gallisepticum Tested Hatchery:

A hatchery whose entire product originates from M. gallisepticum Tested Flocks and is applying the other measures considered necessary by the appropriate State officials to produce products that are free of M. gallisepticum.

3. M. gallisepticum Tested Product:

Eggs, chicks or poults produced by M. gallisepticum Tested Flocks or Hatcheries.

4. M. gallisepticum Sample Tested Flock:

A flock in which a random sample of at least ten percent of the birds (minimum of 100) has been tested, turkeys when over four months of age and chickens when over five months of age, for M. gallisepticum by an authorized laboratory with all tests determined negative by the procedures outlined in paragraph 8. The flock must also meet the conditions specified in paragraph 7.

5. M. gallisepticum Sample Tested Hatchery:

A hatchery whose entire product originates from flocks with no lower status than that of M. gallisepticum Sample Tested Flocks and is applying other measures considered necessary by the appropriate State officials to produce products that are free of M. gallisepticum.



2. Proposed Criteria and Terminology Applicable to Mycoplasma Gallisepticum  
Control Measures - Continued

6. M. gallisepticum Sample Tested Product:

Eggs, chicks or poults produced by M. gallisepticum Sample Tested Flocks or Hatcheries.

7. Additional Requirements:

(a) Flocks shall be composed of turkeys which do not have a history of infectious sinusitis or chickens which do not have a history of chronic respiratory disease.

(b) Flocks shall be inspected periodically by qualified persons for clinical symptoms of infectious sinusitis or chronic respiratory disease as applicable.

(c) A flock held for a second season's production shall be considered a new flock and tested accordingly.

(d) Flocks are subject to retest when clinical symptoms or other evidence indicates M. gallisepticum infection in the flock. Subsequent eligibility for the terminology shall be based on the results of the retests conducted as prescribed in paragraph 8.

8. Laboratory Procedures and Determinations:

(a) All blood samples submitted shall be tested by the tube agglutination or serum plate test, using U.S.D.A. approved antigen. When no reaction is found in any of the samples submitted, all of the tests shall be determined negative.

(b) When reactions to the serum plate or tube agglutination test are found, the reacting samples shall be tested by the hemagglutination-inhibition test using U.S.D.A. approved antigen. When no reaction is found in any of the samples tested by hemagglutination-inhibition method, all samples submitted from the flock shall be determined negative.

(c) When any of the samples reacting to the tube agglutination or serum plate test are also positive to the HI test at 1:80 or more, the flock shall be determined infected. When reaction to the HI test is at 1:40 or less, the test shall be determined suspicious and the laboratory shall designate the reactor birds to be submitted within ten days for further laboratory examination.

Proposed Criteria and Terminology Applicable to Mycoplasma Gallisepticum  
Control Measures - Continued

(d) When the laboratory examination of reactor birds results in the recovery of Mycoplasma gallisepticum or reveals active air sac lesions or other conclusive evidence of M. gallisepticum infection, the flock shall be determined infected. When the examination does not reveal conclusive evidence of M. gallisepticum infection, the tests shall be determined as suspicious.

(e) Flocks with tests determined suspicious may qualify for the terminology by the following procedures and determinations:

1. At least 30 days after the initial test, blood samples shall be submitted from all reactors remaining in the flock and from at least 10% of all other birds in the flock. These samples shall be tested by the procedures specified in 8 (a).
2. When none of the samples react to the tube agglutination or serum plate test, the flock shall be determined not infected.
3. Samples reacting to the serum plate or tube agglutination test shall be tested by the HI method. When none of the samples react to the HI test, the flock shall be determined not infected.
4. If any sample from the flock reacts to the HI test at a titer equal to or higher than the titer of any reaction on the initial test, the flock shall be determined infected.
5. If the maximum titer of the reacting samples is less than the titer of the reaction on the initial test, the flock shall be determined not infected.

9. Glossary:

(a) Flock - All turkeys or chickens maintained and segregated as one unit on one premise.

(b) Appropriate State Official - The person(s) responsible in each State government for the control and eradication of poultry diseases.

(c) Authorized Laboratory - A laboratory approved by the appropriate State official for performing approved serological testing procedures, necropsy examination and bacteriological culture techniques.

2. Proposed Criteria and Terminology Applicable to Mycoplasma Gallisepticum  
Control Measures - Continued

(d) Approved M. gallisepticum antigen - A standard antigen that meets the requirements of the AIQ Division and/or produced in a laboratory licensed by the AIQ Division.

(e) Product - Hatching eggs, chicks or poults.

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